



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kunio KOIKE

Group Art Unit: 2675

Application No.: 10/090,159

Examiner: P. Bell

Filed: march 5, 2002

Docket No.: 111595

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DRIVING A DISPLAY

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 4, 2004 Office Action, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-16 are pending.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ho (U.S. Patent No. 3,984,973) in view of Fujisawa (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0037173) and Morokawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,101,116). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, none of the applied references, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a panel driving control device, including at least a liquid-crystal panel control device that controls the driving of a liquid-crystal panel by applying AC voltage to the panel, and an organic-EL-panel control device that controls the driving of an electroluminescence panel by applying an AC voltage to the panel, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 4, 6, 10, 13 and 15.

Specifically, Ho discloses that when both push buttons 50 and 52 are depressed, digital information on line 85 is fed back to multiplex driver 106, which in turn converts the

information to a DC signal via a line 109, which activates the power to LED segment driver 118 and LED digit driver 120. See col. 7, lines 2-7. See also Fig. 2.

Fujisawa discloses that for the display 121 in Fig. 14, a liquid-crystal display, an organic-EL display or a light emitting diode (LED) will be used. See paragraph [0168].

The Office Action admits that the combination of Ho and Fujisawa does not teach the voltage being AC for both the LCD and EL. The Office Action applies Morokawa to assert that it would have been obvious at the time of the present invention to modify Ho and Fujisawa to include the multi-level voltage generator in Morokawa to drive a liquid-crystal panel by applying AC voltage, and drive an EL panel by applying AC voltage. However, Morokawa discloses in Figs. 2A and 3 that "DC voltage sources" are used in the display drive circuit. See col. 4, lines 32-50 and col. 5, lines 9-10. Specifically, DC voltage sources 204, 236 and 238, and a drive IC 220 are provided therein.

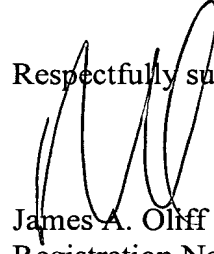
In contrast to the claimed invention, none of the applied references disclose or suggest at least a liquid-crystal panel control device that controls the driving of a liquid-crystal panel by applying AC voltage to the panel, and an organic-EL-panel control device that controls the driving of an electroluminescence panel by applying an AC voltage to the panel. On the contrary, nowhere in the applied references are these features disclosed or suggested.

Because Morokawa discloses that DC voltage sources are used in the display drive circuit, any resulting device using a combination of the applied references would not have resulted in a device that drives both a liquid-crystal panel by applying AC voltage, and EL panel by applying AC voltage. Accordingly, any resulting device would suffer from the "polarization" phenomenon and deterioration of performance of the display discussed in the Applicant's specification. Because it would not have been obvious to combine the applied references to arrive at the claimed invention, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 27, 2005

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